

Central Plains Library System
Board Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2016
Loup City Public Library

CALL TO ORDER

Jody Crocker, Board President, called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dixie Codner, Jody Crocker, Judy Hagan, Kristi Hagstrom, Pat Hughes, Tim Johnson, Rochelle Krueger, Shawna Lindner, Debra Moninger

Absent: Robyn Johnston, Kathy Thomsen, Sky Seery

Also present: Audrey Heil, Terri Johnson, Denise Harders (CPLS Director), Sharon Osenga (CPLS Director), Richard Miller (NLC Rep)

Audrey Heil, Loup City Public Library Director, noted that she and Mary Ann Paider, School Media Specialist for Loup City Public Schools, were willing to offer a tour of the joint public/school library facility to any Board members who wished to see it after the board meeting. Audrey welcomed all to the school and the library.

Jody Crocker noted that Steve Fosselman, chair of the NLA Advocacy Committee, had requested time on the agenda to discuss the status of LB 969. She said that the discussion with Steve would take place via speaker phone. Following is a summary of that discussion:

- Steve noted that the hearing on LB 969 would take place on Monday, February 1, 2016 before the General Affairs Committee.
- He said that NLA and the Advocacy Committee later today would be pushing out a template that could be used by all to contact members of the General Affairs Committee. He noted that that is the main target right now since that committee could stop the bill by not voting it out of committee. He said that anyone can write to a member of that committee even if their Senator is not a member.
- Steve said that the bill, as written, would affect municipal libraries in all classes of cities. All library boards would be advisory except for the selection of library materials.
- The concerns cited by Steve were for other policy areas currently handled by governing library boards – such as intellectual freedom, weeding, confidentiality of library records, equal access, long-range planning, personnel, financial procedures, staying on budget, etc.
- He said that NLA and others would make the case that there are other ways to figure this out, other than by introducing legislation to address these issues.

Following the conference call, Richard Miller distributed copies of LB 969 and reviewed the pertinent sections of the bill that had been addressed by Steve Fosselman.

The meeting then returned to the posted agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Following minor changes, Tim Johnson moved, and Judy Hagan seconded their approval. Approved by all.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sharon Osenga reported that the budget looks healthy, and that the System is under budget. She noted that most bills that are for annual payment (e.g., car insurance) have been paid for the year.

Heritage Bank handles our credit card bill. In relation to the checking account ledger (via Five Points Bank) the following were noted:

- \$1300 was paid to Riggs & Associates for the final review for the Republican Valley Library System.
- \$800 was paid to Popular Subscription Services for the subscription to *School Library Collections*, which is separate from the rest of the System's subscription since it is not allowed to be handled by our subscription jobber.
- Check #294 for \$55.08 to Green Light Collaboration is the total cost we pay for every conference call we make, a major savings over previous methods for such calls.

Pat Hughes moved, and Dixie Codner seconded the approval of the Financial Report. All voted "aye."

CORRESPONDENCE – DENISE HARDERS AND SHARON OSENGA

Sharon reported a thank-you note from Megan Svoboda of Broken Bow Public Library for the Amazon gift card. She also said the System had received an e-mail thank you from Gail Irwin, Ainsworth Public Library, for the huge box of Legos her library received. She said, "I never win anything!"

Denise said that Audrey Heil from Loup City Public Library thanked the System for the repair of library books, for the package of Strawbees (part of the Make Space giveaway), for the repair of books, and for the weeding of the non-fiction done by Sharon Osenga. Sky Seery, Mid-Plains Community College, North Platte, sent thanks for the letter of recommendation she received from the System in relation to the MPLA Leadership Institute. Terri Johnson, North Platte Public Library, sent an e-mail thank you for the quilting set and Strawbees their library received as part of the Maker Space giveaway.

Denise also reported the correspondence from Robyn Johnston, Maywood Public Schools, indicating her resignation from the CPLS Board. She cited family medical reasons.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Denise Harders:

- Distributed the new CPLS Board list.
- Distributed a handout for all to save the date for the NLA Advocacy Day (March 8, 2016).
- She noted that she had traveled to 12 school libraries and 14 public libraries, with a lot of new library directors lately.
- She noted that there were a number of questions concerning the Library Improvement Grants, especially about joining the Pioneer Consortium.
- She said that strategic planning consulting and activities had bled over into the new year.
- She cited the in-service about NebraskaAccess.
- Two workshops for Summer Reading Program are planned for CPLS. As of today 38 were registered to attend.
- Meetings since the last CPLS Board meeting have included: State Advisory Council on Libraries; and a tour of Do Space in Omaha (which has many computers, tech-loaded meetings rooms, 3D printers, laser cutters, a Teen Room with huge screen, toddler room) offered by Michael Sauers. (Sharon recommended that all should sign up for Michael's Facebook page.)
- She noted that she served on the Commission's internship grant review team which reviewed 46 library applications for those grants.
- She cited an article entitled, "Making Space" which will appear in the NLA/NSLA online journal.
- Questions answered during this time included Talking Book and Braille services; statistics; and the Library Improvement Grants.

Sharon Osenga:

- Noted that she had been traveling quite a bit as well.
- She said that she had attended an excellent disaster-preparedness training workshop at the Frank House on the UNK campus. Tom Claeson from Lyrasis offered the training which had excellent handouts and which offered hands-on training including handling wet materials and papers.
- She noted the weeding of the collection at the Burwell Junior/Senior High School which involved having a recycling trailer parked nearby. She also helped with weeding the Amherst School library getting rid of most of the non-fiction older than 2000 copyright dates. That collection is arranged by Accelerated Reader level of difficulty rather than by Dewey.
- Sargent School librarian, Beth Slagle, is retiring this year and will be replaced by a full-time librarian.
- She met with the library board and architect of Ravenna Public Library which at first considered an addition to the original Carnegie library – which would cost more than building new. The community has cleared a lot one block east of the current library. Sharon will be part of the planning process. She recommended that they visit other libraries, Atkinson among them. Fund raising has not yet begun.
- Rock County Public Library is switching from Dewey to a subject arrangement for its collection. Pleasanton Public Schools library has already done this with its fiction.
- Brenizer Public Library in Merna will be celebrating its 100th anniversary and is planning a community celebration. She told them to send an invitation to Rod Wagner.
- Broken Bow Public Library has a Kiewit Grant for its expansion project.
- Sharon noted that a number of the schools in CPLS have not yet reviewed the changes to school library standards that require an up-to-date encyclopedia which can be on-line. She intends to emphasize the new resources available to schools through NebraskaAccess.
- A leadership workshop is planned for April 29th. Presenters include Joyce Neujahr from UNO's Criss Library and Tina Walker from Mid-Plans Community College in McCook.
- Stuart Public Schools is planning to automate.

OLD BUSINESS

Personnel duties – Executive Committee Report

Jody Crocker noted that invoices are now being sent with whatever work is done. Sharon said this is working fine.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Member replacement – Library Advocate

The Board needs a replacement in the library advocate category. Tim Johnson and Pat Hughes are current members in that category. Tony Anderson from Alma once expressed interest in being on the Board in that category. Jody said that current Board members should contact potentially interested parties, particularly someone in your respective area, and get those names to Denise and Sharon by March 31, 2016.

OTHER BUSINESS

Staff Evaluation: Jody Crocker explained that she had sent out staff evaluation forms to Board officers. She noted that staff evaluation will not be done again until next year. She asked what staff might do in order for the board to get to know them better. A suggestion was made for the board to go back to the condensed written report to the Board (for Board meetings and monthly). It was also suggested that if staff are in the vicinity of a board member, that staff stop in to see the board member. Staff need more exchange with Board members so that they will feel more comfortable with performing this evaluation next year.

Chautauqua: Terri Johnson mentioned that Chautauqua is coming to the CPLS area focusing on World War I with one in Hastings each month. Someone noted the tie in with *The Meaning of Names*, Karen Gettert Shoemaker's book chosen for the One Book One Nebraska this year.

NLC COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – RICHARD

Richard reminded everyone of the Big Talk from Small Libraries coming up February 26th. He noted the due date for the annual public library statistics (February 19th) and encouraged all libraries to send them in soon. A link was provided to the annual listing of state government publications (*"What's Up Doc?"*). He also brought up the January 28th due date for the Library Improvement Grants, told all to watch for the February 8th announcement of the Library Internship Grants, and listed five upcoming NCompass Live presentations. In particular among the latter is today's program on moving to Windows 10 which can be watched in archival form. He also noted a free webinar from the National Agricultural Library on February 16th and another from the National Library of Medicine on January 27th. He also mentioned the recent announcement of the 2016 ALA Youth Media Awards including the Newbery and Caldecott Medals. Finally he said that 22 Nebraska public libraries received \$30,000 in Youth Grants for Excellence awards.

ADJOURN MEETING

Prior to adjournment it was mentioned that the next CPLS Board meeting will take place in late April 2016 and will be a telephone conference call. President Jody Crocker adjourned the meeting at 12:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Miller, Substitute Secretary